

A SPECTACULAR BUCHNERA (SCROPHULARIACEAE)  
FROM COLOMBIA

D. PHILCOX

DURING A STUDY VISIT to the Gray Herbarium and Arnold Arboretum, in preparation for a revision of the extra-African Old World *Buchnera*, the author discovered several specimens of an unidentified plant appearing to represent a species of that genus from South America. The descriptive labels, which gave the flower color variously as scarlet, vermilion, orange-red, or red, cast doubt on its identity. Hitherto, all other species of *Buchnera* have had flower colors in the range from mauve through blue to pinkish lilac or white, but never red. However, following my eventual study of this plant together with the excellent color photographs accompanying *Zarucchi 2143*, I have no hesitation in describing it as new.

*Buchnera rubriflora* Philcox, sp. nov.

Ab species aliis *Buchnerae* in floribus rubris et capsulis leviter compressis differt.

Annual or perennial herb 20–60 cm. tall. Stem slender, erect, simple or branched from the base, minutely pubescent with adpressed antrorse hairs to subglabrous. Leaves: cauline, 12–30(–45) mm. long, 1–2(–4) mm. wide, opposite to subopposite, narrowly linear, entire, 1-nerved, glabrous to minutely scabrid; basal, 8–22 mm. long, 4–7.5 mm. wide, obovate to obovate-oblong, narrowed into petiole-like base up to 2 mm. long, pinnately nerved, all nerves prominent beneath, with secondary nerves strongly reticulated. Inflorescence slender, lax to compact, up to 8 cm. long; bracts ovate, up to 2.5 mm. long, shortly ciliate, otherwise glabrous; bracteoles linear, shorter than bracts. Calyx erect, to about 4.5 mm. long including teeth 2 mm. long, glabrous except for shortly ciliate teeth, clearly 10-nerved with no intermediate nervation, teeth becoming patent in fruit. Corolla bright red, tube slender, up to 5 mm. long, glabrous, strict to slightly arcuate, densely villous at throat, internally shortly pilose, lobes about 4 mm. long, 3 mm. wide, broadly obovate, shallowly emarginate. Stigma clavate, style persistent in fruit. Capsule to about 3.5 mm. long, compressed-globose, rarely equaling but not exceeding calyx.

HABITAT. Dry, sandy savannas up to 450 meters.

DISTRIBUTION. Known only from Vaupés, Colombia.

REPRESENTATIVE SPECIMENS. Colombia. VAUPÉS: Río Kuduyarí, Cerro Yapobodá, ca. 450 m., *Schultes & Cabrera 14211* (A, *holotype*), *Schultes, Baker, & Cabrera 18543* (A); Río Karurú, Mesa de Yambí, Savanna Goo-ran-hoo-dá, *Schultes & Cabrera 19132* (GH), *19141* (GH); Río Kubiyú, Mitú and vicinity, *Zarucchi 2143* (GH, K).

HERBARIUM, ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS  
KEW, RICHMOND, SURREY  
ENGLAND